From: Michael Bond
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 8:45pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have been using alternate OS's (not windows) for years now, but there
is always something 'missing'

in the mid 1990's I used OS/2 Warp 3, until about 1996 when there were a
few key applications that required Windows 95 to run.

in 1998 I switched to Linux and run it as my Primary OS to date at home.
I Also have a MacOS X laptop for road work. However i am unable to use
linux reliably at work because of the difficulties of interacting with
Windows. While it is possible to interact with windows, the closed
nature of windows does not make it possible for me to Administer Windows
effectively from a Linux workstation.

This cause me to occupy 2 computers at work, because another core part
of my job requires the use of an Operating system with many Text editing
feature and programming language. Unix, in my case linux, is the best
choice. However every time I receive a computer upgrade it costs my
employer twice as much money because My job requires me to use 2
computers.

If windows had a more open architecture it would be possible to develop
tools like Damerware (www.dameware.com) which allow complete control
over the network that i am responsible for maintaining.

I do not ask that Microsoft Open Source the window operating system or
Microsoft internet explorer. They are entitled to keeping their source
code closed and locked away. I do however Ask that microsoft release
everything required to program tools that would allow myself and other
professionals that need to use alternate Operating Systems the ability
to administor and maintain, fully, a computer running windows over a
network to the same ability that Windows Administrators can.

Michael Bond
mbond@wvu.edu